



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Idaho Sweet Cherry Production Forecasted at 3,800 Tons

Idaho is expecting a sweet cherry crop of 3,800 tons in 2011, up 100 percent from last year but down 37 percent from 2009, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Idaho growers are expecting the sweet cherry production to rebound significantly from last year's freeze damaged crop.

United States sweet cherry production is forecast at 324,830 tons, up 4 percent from 2010. The Washington crop was running approximately two weeks later than normal due to cool weather. However, growers are still expecting a larger crop than last year. California experienced a relatively cool and moist growing season for cherries. Oregon experienced an unusually cool spring that pushed the crop behind by two to three weeks. A large number of flowering buds in Michigan indicated the potential for an above average production year. However, some growers reported low pollination problems due to a cool, wet spring. New York sweet cherry growers reported cold weather in the winter and a wet spring that brought record moisture before and after bloom. In Utah, sweet cherries, which bloom earlier than tart cherries, were damaged significantly by freezing temperatures.

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